



NEWS RELEASE

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Lancaster Man Sentenced for Killing Girlfriend with Sword

A 35-year-old man was sentenced today to 36 years to life in state prison for killing his girlfriend with a sword in front of her children, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jurors deliberated for two hours on March 10 before finding Jesús Humberto Canales guilty of one count of first-degree murder and four counts of child abuse in case MA042795.

The jury also found true the allegation that Canales used a sword to kill Lucy Preciado, 26. The case was prosecuted by Deputy District Attorneys Seth Carmack and Susan Choi.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Eric Harmon of the Antelope Valley Branch handed down the sentence after hearing a victim impact statement from Preciado's oldest daughter, now 15-years-old.

Canales killed his live-in girlfriend with a sword in front of her four children on July 12, 2008, the prosecutor said. At the time, the children's ages ranged from 7 months old to 9 years old.

Following the murder Canales fled the United States and was apprehended five years later in Mexico after an episode of the television show America's Most Wanted featured the story, the prosecutor added.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.